

REMARKS

The present amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed on November 15, 2005, in which Claims 1, 2, 9, 11 and 16 were rejected, Claims 3-7, 10, and 12-15 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, and Claims 17-20 were allowed. Applicant has thoroughly reviewed the outstanding Office Action including the Examiner's remarks and the references cited therein. The following remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action and, when coupled with the above amendments, are believed to render the claims at issue patentable.

Claims 1, 2, 8 and 11 are canceled, and claims 3-4, 12-13, and 15-16 are currently amended. Claims 21 and 22 are added. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added and that the originally filed specification, drawings, and claims support the amendments.

Allowable Subject Matter

According to the Office Action, Claims 3-7, 10, 12-15 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 17-20 are allowed.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication that Claims 17-20 are allowed and that Claims 3-7, 10, 12-15 contain allowable subject matter. In

response, Claims 3 and 15 have been rewritten into independent form including all of the limitations of the respective base claims and any intervening claims.

In amending claims 3 and 15, the subject matter of the slide rails being made of piano wire has been removed, and added into claims 21 and 22, so that these claims recited that the slide rails are made of a linear material, as originally filed. As discussed with the Examiner on February 8, 2006, the feature of the slide rails being made of piano wire is not believed to help define over the cited references, since the Action has cited a reference that allegedly shows a rail made of piano wire, and since the Action does not mention the piano wire in the statement for the indication of allowable subject matter. Moreover, the feature of the slide rails being made of a linear material has already been fully considered by the Examiner in the first Office Action. Thus, no new issues are being presented.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

According to the Office Action, Claims 1-2, 9, 11, 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wihelm (US patent No. 5,233,594) in view of Statou (US patent No. 6,594,076).

Since claims 1, 2 and 11 have been canceled and since claims 9 and 16 respectively depend from allowable claims 3 and 15, these rejections have been rendered moot.

CONCLUSION

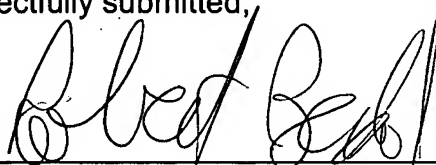
In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims as currently presented are in condition for allowance and hereby respectfully request reconsideration. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to pass the case to issue at the earliest convenience.

Applicant has thoroughly reviewed the art cited but not relied upon by the Examiner. Applicant has concluded that these references do not affect the patentability of the claims as currently presented.

Should the Examiner feel that a conference would help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

Should any fee be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002, and advise us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,



February 9, 2006

Date

Robert H. Berdo, Jr. – Registration No. 38,075
RABIN & BERDO, PC – Customer No. 23995
Facsimile: 202-408-0924; 202-408-5297
Telephone: 202-371-8976

RHB/vm